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ABSTRACT

This 40-minute video presents 10 vignettes about Latino young people reflecting on important issues as they move from high school to college and into civic engagement as leaders in their communities. The vignettes are based on composite life experiences of Latino students. The script, lyrics, and music are original compositions of Los Inocentes from San Antonio, Texas. Issues and themes in the vignettes include: (1) inadequate college preparation, student sensitivity to family and home pressures, and need for mentors and support for first-generation college students; (2) difficulties in transition between high school and college; (3) financial barriers to higher education and family sacrifice and support for student success; (4) sense of social and cultural isolation in college, backlash against Spanish, and need to maintain identity and balance diverse cultures; (5) self-confidence, self-actualization, and commitment to community; (6) community recognition of student achievement; (7) lifelong growth and learning, support and mentoring of younger students, exploration of leadership role, compassion, and spirituality; (8) preservation of family and community traditions, volunteerism, celebration of local art and talent, and community fund raising; (9) leader's commitment to community, decision to remain in or leave the community, intergenerational planning and support, and Spanish language maintenance; and (10) mutual engagement of leaders and community to support sustainable leadership. A guide summarizes the vignettes, offers points for group discussion, and includes song lyrics. (SV)

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